

A GHOST STORY

Divide the audience into five groups. Assign a character role to each. Have them rehearse their parts once. As each character is mentioned, the group stands up, shouts the proper response, and sits down. Everyone plays the part of the ghost. Read the story.

TIMID YOUNG GIRL.....(*Sob or scream.*)
OLD, OLD WOMAN.....(*Shrill laugh.*)
LARGE BLACK CAT....."Me-e-ow"
LONG BLACK SNAKE....."Hiss-ss-s"
TALL DARK MAN.....(*Groan.*)
GHOST(*Everyone scream.*)

On a dark and windy night in October, a stagecoach rumbled along a country road. In it a TIMID YOUNG GIRL bounced up and down on the hard cushions and gazed with fright out into the darkness. Suddenly, the coach stopped and in stepped an OLD, OLD WOMAN. From under one arm peered a LARGE BLACK CAT and around the other arm was twined a LONG BLACK SNAKE.

Ha, ha! a TIMID YOUNG GIRL traveling alone tonight!" the OLD, OLD WOMAN exclaimed with a hideous grin. "Let me tell your fortune my pretty dear." The OLD, OLD WOMAN stretched a puny arm toward the TIMID YOUNG GIRL while the LARGE BLACK CAT arched his back and the LONG BLACK SNAKE watched with beady eyes.

At that moment the door was thrown violently open and in rushed a TALL DARK MAN wearing a long raincoat. His face was hidden by a drooping hat, but his voice was low and pleasant. "Allow me," he said and gently pushed between the TIMID YOUNG GIRL and the OLD, OLD WOMAN who pointed her finger at the TALL DARK MAN. Under the seat the LARGE BLACK CAT meowed again and the LONG BLACK SNAKE hissed. Nearer and nearer to the OLD, OLD WOMAN bent the TALL DARK MAN. He fixed on the OLD, OLD WOMAN two startling

eyes and pushed back his hat. With a terrified shriek the OLD, OLD WOMAN sprang to the door, followed by her LARGE BLACK CAT and LONG BLACK SNAKE. Inside the coach the TIMID YOUNG GIRL fainted, for under the hat of the TALL DARK MAN was the ghastly countenance of a GHOST!

GATHERING OF THE NUTS

Select a cast to enact the following dramatic roles and read the play allowing time for each character to play his part:

Horns.....	"Toot, toot"	} ORCHESTRA
Drum.....	"Boom, boom"	
Cymbals.....	"Clang, clang"	
CURTAINS.....	<i>(Two people stand together, then part.)</i>	
MOON	<i>(Get up.)</i>	
TREES	<i>(Wave arms.)</i>	
SUN	<i>(Sit down.)</i>	
WOLF.....	<i>(Howl at the moon.)</i>	

The ORCHESTRA plays and the CURTAINS part. The TREES wave in the breeze. The SUN sets. The MOON rises. And a WOLF enters howling. Did you ever see such a gathering of nuts?

ORDINARY APPLAUSE

This is just plain hand clapping. Some people would say this is used by those who lack imagination. But it always gets a good response and forces the group to participate.